

Cheryl Roller Testifying on Senate Bill 406  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
February 19, 2009

STATE DEPARTMENT  
EXHIBIT NO. 20  
DATE 2/19/09  
BILL NO. SB406

One reason why the 36 years under Roe V. Wade have been such a tragedy is that rather than upholding the most foundational truth that every human life has value, American law sided with the lie that some lives are expendable—if they do not benefit others. A whole generation of Americans has grown up under a government that has failed to defend the dignity of every person, and we see the consequences: high numbers of abortions, the breakdown of the family, widespread abuse problems, growing prison populations. Certainly not every social problem is directly related to legal abortion, but it is not difficult to grasp the connection to society's failure to respect every human life.

Some people defend Roe V. Wade by saying that women have always had abortions, so it is better if abortions are legal. However, as we recognize from the slavery issue, legalization does not make an action moral. In fact, Dr. Martin Luther King said that an immoral law is no law at all. It is time for our society to examine honestly the laws that permit the killing of innocent life. Montana's legislature can lead the way by passing Senate Bill 406.

Thank you for this opportunity.